



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the U.S. Postal Service issued a new Forever Stamp to honor America's Nisei "Go For Broke Soldiers" on June 3, 2021; and

WHEREAS, despite our nation's executive order that insisted Japanese Americans be incarcerated in detention centers or internment camps, many Nisei men and women who wanted to prove their loyalty to our country patriotically served in the U.S. military during World War II war, fighting two battles—one for equality and justice at home and one against the enemy overseas; and

WHEREAS, intense war hysteria and prejudice faced by the Japanese American community and the contributions of the Nisei soldiers on the battlefield and after the war that eventually led to reparations in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 left a lasting example for all of us to follow; and

WHEREAS, the Stamp Our Story campaign, founded in 2005 by three Japanese American women from California—Fusa Takahashi, Aiko O. King, and the late Chiz Ohira—who unjustly endured incarceration in U.S. detention camps during World War II, was determined to tell the Go For Broke soldiers story through a postage stamp; and

WHEREAS, during that long 15-year period, the campaign gained momentum and support from community and government leaders, including bipartisan support across the country and from those as far away as France; and

WHEREAS, there are Hawai'i connections to the stamp, as the husband of Chiz Ohira was Hawai'i resident Ted Ohira, a 100th/442nd RCT veteran from Makaweli, now known as Kaumakani, on Kaua'i; and

WHEREAS, the illustration of the soldier on the stamp is based on a photo of Shiroku "Whitey" Yamamoto, who was born in Ninole, a community on Hawai'i Island in 1923 and joined the Anti-Tank Company of the 442nd RCT; and

WHEREAS, Nisei veterans organizations across Hawai'i join together to celebrate this milestone and to make this stamp a source of pride for the AJA community and a symbol of the ongoing fight for equality and justice in our country;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 4, 2021 as

"GO FOR BROKE SOLDIERS DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to continue to perpetuate the legacy of the Nisei soldiers and honor their prominent role in World War II, in Hawai'i, and American history.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this third day of June 2021.


DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i